

Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 10 October 2006



Daily Highlights

- WCPO TV reports three suspects are charged with stealing copper wiring from the Indiana and Ohio railroad; the theft interrupted the ability for trains to communicate with their dispatchers in the case of an emergency. (See item 10)
- The Los Angeles Times reports that in yet another dramatic incident at Los Angeles International Airport, a Gulfstream business jet and a SkyWest regional jet came close to colliding on a runway Saturday, September 30. (See item 13)
- The Associated Press reports the European Union and the United States agreed Friday, October 6, on a new anti-terrorism agreement that will give U.S. law enforcement agencies access to data about passengers on U.S.-bound flights. (See item 15)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: <u>Energy</u>; <u>Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials</u>; <u>Defense Industrial Base</u> Service Industries: <u>Banking and Finance</u>; <u>Transportation and Border Security</u>; <u>Postal and Shipping</u>

Sustenance and Health: Agriculture; Food; Water; Public Health

Federal and State: Government; Emergency Services

IT and Cyber: Information Technology and Telecommunications; Internet Alert Dashboard

Other: Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons: General: DHS Daily Report Contact

Information

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: <u>Physical</u>: ELEVATED, <u>Cyber</u>: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – http://www.esisac.com]

1. October 08, Denton Record—Chronicle (TX) — Maze of underground gas lines causes concern. Miles of high—pressure pipelines in Denton County, TX, connect more than 2,000 gas wells under prairies and pastures, taking the gas from the wellhead to interstate transmission lines. But no one person or local entity knows where the underground pipes are. Energy

companies are not required to record pipelines with Denton County officials, causing anxiety after leaks or emergencies. About two dozen homes in Wise County were evacuated Wednesday, October 4, after a 24-inch transmission pipeline ruptured, leaving a 30-foot-wide hole in the ground. That incident is being investigated. Anxieties have been building for some time, as some Denton officials question whether growth to the west, over the top of this web of pipelines, is an accident waiting to happen. The U.S. Department of Transportation enforces the rules for transmission lines, and the Texas Railroad Commission enforces some of the gathering lines. The Railroad Commission writes no rules for on—shore flow lines, but a number of area cities have tried to write a few rules for flow and gathering lines. Most cities have written rules for gas development, requiring energy companies to build pipelines to industry standards and provide a map of the lines.

Source: http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/localnews/stories/DN-gasmaps 08wes.ART0.North.Edition1.3e119bd.html

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

2. October 07, Associated Press — Raging chemical fire in Apex, North Carolina, prompts evacuations. Firefighters in Apex, NC, brought a once—raging chemical fire under control early Saturday, October 7, more than a day after it filled the sky with a choking, noxious yellow haze and chased hundreds of people from their homes. Officials warned late Friday, October 6, that the blaze could smolder into Sunday under the protection of twisted metal and unstable walls. But with the aid of heavy machinery, they removed the barrier and attacked the remaining hot spots. More than 17,000 people were urged to stay out of their homes after the fire and a thunderous series of explosions at the EQ Industrial Services plant late Thursday, October 5. No employees were believed to have been inside the plant at the time. Officials said 44 people went to emergency rooms, most complaining of breathing problems, but nearly all had been released by midday. A timely rainstorm helped scrub the air, but Mayor Keith Weatherly said none of the evacuated residents would be allowed to return home until the blaze was fully extinguished.

 $Source: \underline{http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10} \underline{/06/AR2006100601064.html}$

3. October 04, KATU (WA) — Propane explosion in Oregon prompts interstate closure. A propane tank explosion left one person injured and forced a temporary closure of a 10-mile stretch of Interstate 84 in Dalles, OR, on Wednesday, October 4. The explosion happened on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers property at the Dalles Dam. According to Corps of Engineers spokesperson Matt Rabe, the incident began when a propane tank located in a storage yard next to a warehouse just north of I-84 exploded. That touched off several other tanks ranging in size from five gallons to 100 gallons.

Source: http://www.katu.com/news/4307202.html

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. October 06, Government Accountability Office — GAO-07-40: Rebuilding Iraq: Status of Competition for Iraq Reconstruction Contracts (Report). Since 2003, Congress has appropriated more than \$20 billion through the Iraq Relief and Reconstruction Fund (IRRF) to support Iraq rebuilding efforts. The majority of these efforts are being carried out through contracts awarded by the Departments of Defense (DoD) and State and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). When awarding IRRF-funded contracts for \$5 million or more noncompetitively, agencies are required by statute to provide notification and justification to Congress. In June 2004, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that agencies generally complied with laws and regulations governing competition to award new contracts, but did not always comply with competition requirements when issuing task orders under existing contracts. As mandated by Congress, this report (1) describes the extent of competition in Iraq reconstruction contracts awarded by DoD, USAID, and State since October 1, 2003, based on available data, and (2) assesses whether these agencies followed applicable documentation and congressional notification requirements regarding competition for 51 judgmentally selected Iraq reconstruction contract actions. In written comments, State and USAID concurred with the report findings. DoD provided a technical comment. Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0740high.pdf

Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0740high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-40

5. October 05, U.S. Air Force — Air Force Strategic Plan released. The U.S. Air Force has released the Air Force Strategic Plan for 2006–2008. Some key objectives include: a) Develop and implement an effective communications program to clearly explain the Air Force's contributions to U.S. and global security; b) Develop and deploy next generation operational concepts that leverage legacy and emerging capabilities; c) Develop and implement a plan for developing cyberspace as an Air Force core competency; d) Develop doctrine and Tactics, Techniques and Procedures for current and emerging information operations/cyberspace missions; e) Strengthen ability to share information within the Air Force and between the Air Force and our external partners. Refer to source to view the full text plan.

Source: http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-060919-008.pdf

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Banking and Finance Sector

6. October 09, Daily Mail (UK) — Home computers targeted by hackers 50 times a day. Home PCs could be under attack from hackers over 50 times a night, suggests a BBC News Website experiment. The BBC News Website team set up a 'honeypot' PC — a computer that looks like a normal PC online but records everything that's done to it — in order to find out the dangers facing Web users. Every single time the 'honeypot' was put online it was attacked. In one of the busiest nights of malicious online activity, the computer was attacked 53 times. The results: one hijack attempt that would have handed over control of the machine to a hacker; two "port scans" which look for weak spots in Windows software — reconnaissance by hackers seeking new victims; eleven attacks by the 'Blaster' worm — success would have rendered the machine unusable; three attacks by the 'Slammer' worm — success would have left machine crippled and prone to crashing; 36 fake security announcements for fake security software posing as warnings, which could leave a PC clogged with spyware. Over the course of the

whole experiment, on average at least one attack an hour came from a dangerous computer bug with the ability to cripple an unprotected PC.

Source: http://www.dailymail.co.uk/pages/live/articles/news/news.htm 1?in article id=409289&in page id=1770

- 7. October 08, Bradenton Herald (FL) Banks buy into high-tech defense. According to a study by Trusted Network Technologies, more than 5,000 incidents of unauthorized information access occur each month at financial institutions. Fraud-Net, an online service sponsored by the Florida Banker's Association, provides information on criminal activities affecting financial institutions and is divided by regions and categories of activity. Security breaches have become such a problem that the FBI's Cyber Crimes Squad in Tampa has built a public-private alliance to handle the rising number of information security breaches. InfraGard, which started in 1996, serves as a resource for both the FBI and private companies to deal with issues of information security. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has its own stringent security program, according to Laura Buckley of People's Community Bank in Florida. It mandates that its member banks carry out risk assessments, policies, and procedures, and implement firewalls, antivirus protection, vulnerability systems, content filtering, and scanning. It also dictates that banks must train their customers and employees on how to protect information. In January the FDIC will require that all Internet banking with high-risk customers must use a multi-factor authentication system by the end of the year. Source: http://www.bradenton.com/mld/bradenton/business/15698979.htm
- 8. October 06, Register (UK) Worm automates Google AdSense fraud. Virus writers have crafted a malware threat that serves up expensive Google AdSense Web pages related to mesothelioma. The cost-per-click for the term "mesothelioma" is \$13 and higher. Google AdSense allows online publishers to make revenue by displaying Google ads relevant to the content of their site. Because Google pays the host Website based on the number of clicks on their ads, the process can be susceptible to "click-fraud." The KMeth worm, which targets Yahoo! Messenger users, directs infected users to a Website serving a barrage of Google AdSense advertisements related to mesothelioma. Financially–motivated malware writers apparently hope to cash on the ruse through shares in the resulting advertising commissions which will not likely materialize. KMeth exploits IE vulnerabilities to infect surfers who visit malware infested sites controlled by hackers, promoted through IM messages sent to the Yahoo! Messenger contacts of infected users. Said Chris Boyd of FaceTime Security Labs, "In this case, the hackers have cleverly borrowed tactics from botnet-creators to create a bot-less network of hijacked PC users to drive traffic to sites populated with these specific Google AdSense advertisements. Introducing the human factor into the scenario makes these 'bot-less nets' much more difficult to detect."

Source: http://www.channelregister.co.uk/2006/10/06/google_adsense_w_orm/

9. October 05, North Jersey — Firms tackle money laundering. Since the September 11 attacks, regulators have been taking a harder look at how financial services firms are doing in identifying suspicious transactions and reporting them to the government. As a result, many institutions are spending more to purchase electronic monitoring systems and train their staffs to detect questionable accounts. A survey of more than 60 financial services executives by the accounting firm KPMG showed that about 75 percent plan to spend more on anti–money–laundering compliance programs over the next year. A little more than half of

those surveyed said they will add staff in the next 12 months to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. About 80 percent plan to invest in transaction monitoring, and 76 percent have already invested in some technology used to combat money laundering. KPMG released the results Wednesday, October 4. New software on the market can review large volumes of transactions, and identify suspicious ones, based in part on whether they involve countries deemed to be high–risk. A shortfall in compliance can bring unwanted attention from regulators that can limit a bank's ability to merge or expand.

Source: http://www.northjersey.com/page.php?qstr=eXJpcnk3ZjczN2Y3dnF lZUVFeXkyOSZmZ2JlbDdmN3ZxZWVFRXI5NzAwMTM1MyZ5cmlyeTdmNzE3Zjd 2cWVIRUV5eTI=

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

10. October 08, WCPO TV (OH) — Three arrested in railroad copper theft. An alleged copper theft over the weekend has landed three men in jail, and could have left hundreds of area residents vulnerable. Police say they were after copper found along a railroad line. Stealing it disrupted emergency communications on the railroad. The suspects are charged with allegedly stealing copper wiring from the Indiana and Ohio railroad in Evendale, OH. The theft interrupted the ability for trains to communicate with their dispatchers in the case of an emergency. When police caught up with them on Saturday night, October 7, they were in possession of 100 pounds of the sought–after metal, which could fetch as much as \$1,000 at an area scrap yard.

Source: http://www.wcpo.com/news/2006/local/10/08/copper_theft.html

11. October 07, Associated Press — Shuttle bus fire prompts evacuation at Kansas City, Missouri, airport terminal. A shuttle bus caught fire outside a terminal a Kansas City International Airport on Saturday, October 7, prompting an hour—long evacuation of several hundred people, authorities said. No serious injuries were reported but two people who had been on the parking lot shuttle were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation, said Kathleen Hefner of the Kansas City Aviation Department, which owns and operates the airport. The cause was under investigation, but officials quickly determined there was "no nexus to terrorism and no security threat," said Rich Curasi, federal security director in western Missouri for the Transportation Security Administration.

Source: http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2006/10/07/america/NA GEN US Airport Bus Fire.php

12. October 06, Government Accountability Office — GAO-07-94: Freight Railroads: Industry Health Has Improved, but Concerns about Competition and Capacity Should Be Addressed (Report). The Staggers Rail Act deregulated the freight rail industry, relying on competition to set rates, and allowed for differential pricing (charging higher rates to those more dependent on rail). The act gave the Surface Transportation Board (STB) authority to develop remedies for shippers "captive" to one railroad and set a threshold for shippers to apply for rate relief. GAO was asked to review (1) changes in the railroad industry since the Staggers Rail Act, including rates and competition; (2) STB actions to address competition and captivity concerns and alternatives that could be considered; and (3) freight demand and capacity

projections and potential federal policy responses. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined STB data, conducted interviews, and held an expert panel. GAO recommends that STB analyze the state of competition and consider appropriate actions. GAO also recommends that DOT consider strategies to level the playing field for all freight modes to maximize public benefits from federal investment. STB disagreed with our recommendation because it would take resources from efforts it believes will address GAO concerns, among other reasons. GAO recognize STB's efforts, but believe further analysis is needed. STB should seek more resources from Congress if needed. DOT took no position on GAO's recommendation.

Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d0794high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-94

13. October 06, Los Angeles Times — Crash narrowly averted at LAX again. In yet another dramatic incident at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), two aircraft came so close to colliding on a runway Saturday, September 30, that one pilot can be heard hyperventilating on air traffic control tapes. A SkyWest regional jet taking off for San Antonio had accelerated to 115 mph when a Gulfstream business jet strayed in front, forcing the pilot to slam on his brakes. The SkyWest jet, with about 39 people on board, shuddered to a stop less than 100 feet from the Gulfstream. After the incident, a shaken tower controller can be heard on the radio apologizing to the SkyWest pilot and asking him to immediately leave the runway to make room for a landing aircraft. Controllers in the tower at LAX — the world's fifth—busiest passenger airport — said it was the closest they'd seen two airplanes come to each other at the facility without actually colliding. It was the eighth near miss there this year, compared with six in 2005. The incident comes just nine weeks after a serious near—collision at LAX involving two airliners on the same runway and underscores long—standing safety issues with the airport's configuration.

Source: http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-lax6oct06,0,1573911.story?coll=la-home-headlines

14. October 06, Transportation Security Administration — Transit security grant for Denver to protect transit systems. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced today a \$1,150,000 grant to the Regional Transportation District (RTD) of Denver to provide video surveillance equipment at existing light rail stations. Since 2003, DHS has provided approximately \$3,200,119 to Denver through grants and equipment transfer programs administered by the Department's Office of Grants and Training. These awards are part of \$136 million in grants to cities across the nation to protect transit systems and the traveling public. The Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP), which is part of the department's Infrastructure Protection Program, strengthens the nation's ability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, and other emergencies that could impact this country's critical infrastructure. The TSGP utilizes a two-tiered, risk-based approach that focuses on high risk and high consequence transit systems. In July, DHS announced \$123 million in funding to Tier 1 urban areas, which are comprised of high passenger density and rail systems with significant infrastructures, such as underwater tunnels and stations and ferry systems. Urban areas that received funds in previous years, but were not eligible in Tier 1, qualified to apply and compete for TSGP Tier 2 funds.

For details on the Transit Security Grant Program: http://www.tsa.gov/join/grants/tsgp.shtm Source: http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2006/press-release-1004200 6b.shtm

- 15. October 06, Associated Press EU, U.S. reach deal on sharing passenger data from trans-Atlantic flights. The European Union (EU) and the United States agreed Friday, October 6, on a new anti-terrorism agreement that will give the FBI and other U.S. law enforcement agencies access to data about passengers on U.S.-bound flights. The interim deal — reached after a nine—hour, trans—Atlantic video conference that took place nearly a week after negotiators missed an October 1 deadline — replaces a 2004 air passenger privacy agreement the EU's high court voided last May for purely technical reasons. The 25 EU governments are expected to give final approval to the interim deal next week. Under the agreement, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) no longer will have an automatic right to pull data from European airlines' computer systems, but must ask for such information. The U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency may disclose passenger data to other American law enforcement agencies only if "they have comparable standards of data protection," EU Justice Commissioner Franco Frattini told reporters. He said it cannot give them direct electronic access to the data and limits the duration of its storage. Statement by DHS Secretary Chertoff on Passenger Name Record agreement with European Union: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=5960 Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/news/2006-10-06-eu-us-flier-d ata x.htm
- **16.** October 06, Associated Press Romney: Police to resume bag inspections on commuter rail. Police will resume inspections of bags on public trains, buses, and boats in the greater Boston area for the first time since the city hosted the Democratic National Convention in 2004, Governor Mitt Romney said Thursday, October 5. Romney said the inspections will be random and were not in response to an immediate threat, but were an acknowledgment that railways and subways are vulnerable to terrorist attacks. To conduct the inspections police will use a detection system that allowed them to inspect for possible explosives hidden in bags. The system lets police swab the outside and seams of a bag, then put the swab in a detector to search for traces of explosive materials without opening the bags. The process takes about a minute and police can request a rider to open a bag if warranted. The transit system is also adding uniformed teams of officers trained to try to pick out potential terrorists based on their behavior.

Source: http://www3.whdh.com/news/articles/local/BO30264/

17. October 05, Federal Computer Week — TSA needs to beef up COOP plan, IG says. Work at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) could grind to a halt in the event of an emergency because agency officials have not put together an adequate continuity—of—operations plan (COOP), a recent report states. TSA's current plan would require more than 200 people to conduct 138 mission—essential functions at two or more different locations during the most extreme emergency situations, according to a redacted report from the Department of Homeland Security's inspector general (IG). For the number of people involved, the plan would provide only a minimal COOP capability, the IG concluded. TSA managers need to do more work to ensure that only essential functions and associated emergency employees are included in the plan. Also, the agency has yet to establish a viable work site, the report states. TSA had been responsive to earlier draft versions of its report, the IG reports, and had taken significant steps to building a strong and viable COOP capability.

IG report: http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/OIGr-06-60 Aug06.pd f Source: http://www.fcw.com/article96367-10-05-06-Web

18. September 29, Government Accountability Office — GAO-06-1031: Terrorist Watch List Screening: Efforts to Help Reduce Adverse Effects on the Public (Report). A consolidated watch list managed by the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center (TSC) contains the names of known or suspected terrorists, both international and domestic. Various agencies whose missions require screening for links to terrorism use watch list records. For example, U.S. Customs and Border Protection screens travelers at ports of entry. Because screening is based on names, it can result in misidentifications when persons not on the list have a name that resembles one on the list. Also, some names may be mistakenly included on the watch list. In either case, individuals can be negatively affected and may express concerns or seek agency action, or redress, to prevent future occurrences. This report addresses: (1) the extent to which the numbers of misidentified persons are known and how they could be affected, (2) the major reasons misidentifications occur and the actions agencies are taking to reduce them or minimize their effects, and (3) the opportunities for redress available to individuals with watch list-related concerns. In conducting work at TSC and the principal federal agencies that use watch list data, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed standard operating procedures and other relevant documentation and interviewed responsible officials. GAO makes no recommendations at this time because the agencies have ongoing initiatives to improve data quality, reduce the number of misidentifications or mitigate their effects, and enhance redress efforts.

Highlights: http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d061031high.pdf
Source: http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-06-1031

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

19. October 09, Minnesota Ag Connection — Minnesota tuberculosis investigation discovers sixth infected herd. The Minnesota Board of Animal Health announced Sunday, October 8, that a cow from a farm in Roseau County tested positive for bovine tuberculosis (TB). Minnesota has now detected bovine TB in six beef herds in Roseau and Beltrami counties. This sixth infected herd, which underwent an initial round of testing last year, shared fence line with the first beef herd to test positive. After the first TB-positive herd was identified in Roseau County last summer, animal health officials initiated a disease investigation to locate exposed animals. Investigation protocol requires potentially exposed herds, including those with fence line contact, to undergo two TB herd tests one year apart. The newly detected sixth herd tested negative last year, but during a second round of testing in mid-September, a two-year-old cow was found suspect for bovine TB. Tissue samples were submitted to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) in Ames, IA, where the diagnosis of bovine TB was confirmed. As a result of detecting a sixth infected herd, Minnesota will be delayed in regaining TB-free status

Source: http://www.minnesotaagconnection.com/story-state.php?Id=919& yr=2006

20. October 07, U.S. Department of Agriculture — Avian influenza tests complete on wild ducks in Montana. The U.S. Departments of Agriculture (USDA) and Interior Saturday, October 7, announced final test results, which confirm that a low pathogenic H5 avian influenza virus was found in samples collected last month from wild Northern pintail ducks in Montana. This type of avian influenza has been detected several times in wild birds in North America and poses no risk to human health. The USDA National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) confirmed the presence of low pathogenic H5N3 avian influenza through virus isolation in two of the 16 samples collected from wild pintails in Cascade County, MT. Initial screening results announced on September 21 indicated that H5 and N1 subtypes might be present in the collected samples, but further testing was necessary to confirm the H and N subtypes as well as pathogenicity.

Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?conten tidonly=true&contentid=2006/10/0402.xml

21. October 06, U.S. Department of Agriculture — Funds awarded for researching the economic effects of strategies to combat invasive pests. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Mike Johanns Friday, October 6, announced that universities in seven states will receive \$1.1 million to study the economic implications of preventing, controlling, or eradicating invasive pests and diseases. The agreements will provide funding to universities in Arizona, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Ohio, Texas, and Washington. Among the subjects these projects will examine are: development of decision support systems to help public and private land managers identify priorities, and select efficient prevention, detection, and control strategies; benefits and costs of strategies to slow the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer in Michigan and Ohio; benefits and costs of policy options to manage animal diseases that spread between livestock and wildlife, accounting for ecological and economic factors; economic effectiveness of mitigation strategies against avian influenza in the poultry industry, including prevention and response; economic and trade effects on U.S. and global livestock markets of animal disease outbreaks and of individual and multi-country responses. Source: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/ s.7 0 A/7 0 1OB?conten

tidonly=true&contentid=2006/10/0401.xml

22. October 06, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service — Protocol for potato pest detection and response established. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in coordination with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has developed a joint protocol to implement immediate response measures if future detections of potato cyst nematodes are found in either Canada or the U.S. The establishment of this protocol will immediately allow trade between the two countries — which was previously halted due to the detections of these nematodes — to resume for certain articles from areas within Idaho and the province of Quebec. USDA and CFIA have agreed on specific science-based guidelines and procedures for defining the extent of an infestation and establishing appropriate regulated areas. This action will allow both countries to maintain pest-free status outside of the regulated areas and will help minimize disruptions in the movement of regulated articles. Immediately upon detection of either the pale cyst nematode or golden nematode, the respective national plant protection organization will impose restrictions on infested fields, initiate an investigation that will include trace forward and trace back activities, and also conduct delimiting surveys to determine the extent and, if possible, the

source of the infestation. Based on this information, regulated areas will be established. Source: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2006/10/pcnprot.s.html

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Food Sector

23. October 09, Toronto Star (Canada) — Tainted carrot juice paralyzes two. Two Toronto, Canada, residents are paralyzed in hospital after they drank toxic carrot juice purchased in Toronto that has been recalled across North America. The juice, produced by Bolt–house Farms in Bakersfield, CA, was ordered off shelves September 30 after four cases of botulism were linked to toxic carrot juice in the U.S. The company's Website says they distribute carrot juice to the U.S., Canada and Mexico. On Saturday, October 7, lab test results confirmed that Bolthouse Farms carrot juice purchased in Toronto sometime last month and consumed by the Toronto patients was positive for the botulism toxin. Bolthouse Farms 100 percent Carrot Juice, Earthbound Farm Organic Carrot Juice and President's Choice Organics 100 percent Pure Carrot Juice have been recalled. Botulism can cause paralysis and, in severe cases, the paralysis can restrict breathing capabilities, forcing patients onto ventilators.

Source: http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&c=Article&cid=1160345410506&call_pageid=968867505381&col=969048872038

24. October 09, Associated Press — Lettuce recalled over E. coli concerns. Less than a week after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) lifted its warning on fresh spinach grown in California's Salinas Valley, a popular brand of lettuce grown there has been recalled over concerns about E. coli contamination. The lettuce does not appear to have caused any illnesses, the president of Salinas—based Nunes Co. said. Executives ordered the recall after learning that irrigation water may have been contaminated with E. coli, said Tom Nunes Jr., president of the company. So far, company investigators have not found E. coli bacteria in the lettuce itself, Nunes stressed. The recall covers green leaf lettuce purchased in grocery stores October 3–6 in Arizona, California, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. It was also sold to distributors in those states who may have sold it to restaurants or institutions. E. coli, can proliferate in uncooked produce, raw milk, unpasteurized juice, contaminated water and meat. When consumed, it may cause diarrhea and bloody stools.

Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10 /08/AR2006100800515.html

25. October 06, Food Safety and Inspection Service — Ground beef products recalled. Jim's Market and Locker, Inc. a Harlan, IA, firm, is voluntarily recalling approximately 5,226 pounds of ground beef that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced Friday, October 6. The problem was discovered through microbiological testing. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product. The ground beef products were produced on August 31 and September 1 and distributed to one retail establishment in Iowa and distributors in Georgia, Iowa, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, Texas and Wisconsin. E. coli O157:H7 is a potentially deadly bacterium that can cause bloody diarrhea and dehydration. The very young, seniors and persons with compromised immune systems are the most

susceptible to foodborne illness.

Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News & Events/Recall 029 2006 Relea se/index.asp

26. October 04, U.S. Food and Drug Administration — Turkey sandwiches recalled. Jumbo Foods, Inc. of Mukilteo, WA, is recalling Tuscan Sun Turkey sandwiches, because it has the potential to be contaminated with Listeria Monocytogenes, an organism that can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. The Tuscan Sun Turkey sandwiches was distributed in Washington, Oregon and Northern California through convenience stores. No illnesses have been reported to date. The recall was the result of a routine sampling program by the Washington State Department of Agriculture, which revealed that the Tuscan Sun Turkey sandwich contained the bacteria. Jumbo Foods has ceased the distribution of the Tuscan Sun Turkey sandwich as the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and Jumbo Foods continue their investigation as to what caused the problem.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/jumbo10 06.html

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Water Sector

27. October 07, Times—Picayune (LA) — Potable water ready to flow in Lower Ninth Ward. Safe drinking water should be flowing to the northern section of the Lower Ninth Ward by October 20, restoring the most basic public service to the last remaining sliver of New Orleans, LA, without potable water. Preliminary tests by the Sewerage & Water Board (S&WB) show that water pressure in the area has reached an adequate, sustainable level, and that the water's chemical composition is not harmful for drinking, cooking or bathing, agency spokesperson Robert Jackson said Friday, October 6. Based on those results, S&WB officials expect that barring unusual problems the state's Department of Health and Hospitals will "certify" the water as safe for everyday use sometime in the next two weeks, he said. Though water has been available at residents' lots for several months, dozens of fractured subterranean pipes have resulted in inconsistent water pressure, making state certification impossible.

Source: http://www.nola.com/news/t-p/frontpage/index.ssf?/base/news-6/1160204552253020.xml&coll=1

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Public Health Sector

28. October 09, Reuters — Bird flu found in pigs in Indonesia's Bali. The H5N1 bird flu virus has infected pigs on the Indonesian resort island of Bali, a senior agriculture ministry official said on Monday, October 9. "There were two pigs that were infected by bird flu in Bali. These were old cases that happened last July," Musni Suatmodjo, agriculture ministry director of animal health said. Koran Tempo newspaper had reported on the weekend that a team from the veterinary faculty at Udayana University had discovered avian influenza infected two pigs in the regencies of Gianyar and Tabanan in Bali. Pigs are a concern because they are susceptible to many of the viruses that infect humans. Swine can act as mixing vessels in which genetic

material from avian flu viruses can mix with human influenza viruses, potentially producing new and deadly strains for which humans have no immunity. The agriculture ministry's Suatmodjo said bird flu had been detected in 30 out of 33 provinces in the country, with the latest cases in North Sulawesi province.

Source: http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/JAK104239.htm

29. October 09, Reuters — Pfizer to acquire British DNA vaccine pioneer. Pfizer Inc. has agreed to acquire privately held PowderMed Ltd. for an undisclosed sum in a bid to enter the increasingly lucrative market for vaccines, the world's top drugmaker said on Monday, October 9. Based in Oxford, England, PowderMed has developed a needle—free technique for firing DNA—coated microscopic gold particles into the skin to help the immune system fight influenza and chronic viral diseases. Pfizer's rival GlaxoSmithKline Plc predicted last month that global vaccine sales would triple by 2015, from about \$11 billion in 2005, helped by the arrival of several modern new vaccines. Unlike conventional vaccines, PowderMed uses fragments of DNA to stimulate an immune system response, using pressurized helium gas to blast tiny particles into the skin instead of a needle. PowderMed's DNA—based vaccines have been shown to trigger two kinds of immune response — antibody and cell—mediated — which could make them more effective than traditional ones. Currently, flu vaccines must be made inside chicken eggs, which can take up to nine months.

Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlebusiness.aspx?type=businessCompany&storyID=2006-10-09T151731Z 01 WEN6626 RTRIDST 0 BUSINESSPROCO-PFIZER-DC.XML&from=business

- 30. October 09, Channel News Asia (Singapore) Changes made to how Singapore will tackle bird flu pandemic. Three key changes are being made to Singapore's response to a possible bird flu pandemic, based on lessons learned from preparedness exercises conducted earlier this year. Minister of State for Health Heng Chee How said the first main area of improvement is the line between Government polyclinics and general practitioners. "Initially, the plan was to centralize treatment at the 18 polyclinics. But we also recognize that most Singaporeans consult their family doctors in the private sector for acute illnesses like influenza. In the first exercise, we validated the feasibility of utilizing doctors to continue to serve the population. With some coordination we will be able to organize more than 1000 clinics to provide primary care to the community." Also reviewed was the work of public and private hospitals in an outbreak. Previously, restructured hospitals were to manage all flu patients who required hospitalized care, while non-flu patients would be referred to private hospitals. But as Heng pointed out, "It would be very difficult to fully effectively segregate such cases in a pandemic." All hospitals will also have a dedicated group of staff. According to Heng, exercises highlighted that it is impractical to expect that all staff have the same level of readiness and training. Source: http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/vi ew/234564/1/.html
- 31. October 06, Agence France-Presse Thailand launches anti-bird flu campaign in schools. Thailand is launching a campaign across its 40,000 schools to teach children how to avoid bird flu, the government said. Posters and pamphlets will promote frequent hand washing, early reporting of sick or dead birds, and safe poultry-cooking practices, organizers said Friday, October 6. "The majority of those affected by bird flu are children under the age of 18 who contract it from playing with chickens," said Mark Thomas, a spokesperson for UNICEF, which organized the campaign with the education ministry. As part of the campaign,

teachers will be given a new curriculum to educate children about bird flu, and 300,000 bars of soap will be sent to elementary schools. Thailand is among the countries hardest hit by the H5N1 strain of the bird flu virus, recording 25 human cases, 17 of them fatal, since the outbreak began there in 2004.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20061006/hl afp/healthfluthailan dunicef; ylt=AnfIKv8BJ30ohDHvRrpfZ5OJOrgF; ylu=X3oDMTA5aHJvM DdwBHNlYwN5bmNhdA—

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Government Sector

32. October 09, Associated Press — Student fires gun in Missouri middle school. In Joplin, MO, A 13-year-old student fired an AK-47 into the ceiling at his middle school Monday morning, October 9, after confronting a pair of students and administrators, telling them, "please don't make me do this," officials said. The student was wearing a mask and pointed the assault rifle at Principal Steve Gilbreth and Assistant Superintendent Steve Doerr, Superintendent Jim Simpson said. Doerr and Gilbreth persuaded the student to leave the building, where he was confronted by two police officers with weapons drawn, Simpson said. He said the student dropped the rifle and was taken into custody. The armed student, whose identity wasn't released, apparently had been planning an attack for a "long time," Simpson said. He didn't elaborate and said authorities did not know whether others were involved. Joplin, which has about 40,900 residents, is in southwest Missouri, on the Kansas border about 140 miles south of Kansas City.

Source: http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/national/1110AP Missouri School Shooting.html

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Emergency Services Sector

33. October 06, Department of Homeland Security — Firefighters to receive \$485 million in grants. The Department of Homeland Security announced Friday, October 6, \$91.8 million in direct assistance grants to 860 fire departments and first responder organizations through the department's Fiscal Year 2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. Additional phases will soon be announced that will total \$485 million in FY06 AFG awards to nearly 5,000 fire–related organizations nationwide.

AFG Awardees: http://www.dhs.gov/interweb/assetlibrary/prep-fy2006afgaward-ees.htm
AFG Fact Sheet: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=5962
Source: http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=5961

34. October 06, George Mason University — DHS Under Secretary George Foresman speaks on the future of preparedness. On September 27, the George Mason University School of Law's Critical Infrastructure Protection Program, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), held a Critical Conversation at the National Press Club. This event was part of National Preparedness Month, a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies. Participants discussed

the role of the private sector in protecting the nation's critical infrastructure in a dynamic environment. The Honorable George Foresman, DHS Under Secretary for Preparedness, addressed business leaders and discussed the future of critical infrastructure preparedness: "Clearly communicating our respective rules of the road, our strategies for preparedness and response, and our needs are all conditions that are critical for success in overcoming the communications challenges that we face...we've got an opportunity in the post-Katrina environment, in the post-dustup environment of a whole lot of things to recommit ourselves to this public-private sector collaboration and to recommit ourselves to truly working through these challenging issues because something is going to happen." This dialogue is part of a larger effort to define public and private sector roles and responsibilities, provide sufficient resource capability, and prepare for threats in an efficient way.

Source: http://cipp.gmu.edu/report/

- 35. October 06, Federal Emergency Management Agency President declares major disaster for Indiana. The head of the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency Friday, October 6, announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for the state of Indiana. The assistance will supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding during the period of September 12–14, 2006. For further detail: http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=7145 Source: http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=30584
- 36. October 05, Washington Technology Report: Emergency management needs **synchronicity.** Computer systems that tracked 66,200 National Guard and civilian responders deployed after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita need to be improved and better integrated, according to a just-released 2005 Hurricane Season Response After-Action Report. The Emergency Management Assistance Compact, an organization created in 1996 that manages a disaster-relief mutual aid agreement among the states and territories, prepared the 175-page report. Much of the assistance was distributed successfully in 2005. However, the report noted shortcomings in the compact's computer systems, especially in coordinating its central database, broadcast system and electronic aid request forms. Report: http://www.emacweb.org/?1455

Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1 1/homeland/29460- 1.html

37. October 05, WRAL (NC) — Second 911 outage reported in eastern North Carolina. A second 911 outage was reported in several eastern counties in North Carolina. The emergency line went down in Franklin County and several other areas. Officials said the outage started early Thursday, October 5. It lasted about 15 minutes. There is no word if the outage was caused by the same problem that affected 20 911 call centers for several hours Monday night, October 2.

For further detail on the Monday night outage: http://www.wral.com/news/9993350/detail.html Source: http://www.wral.com/news/10006670/detail.html?rss=ral&psp=ne-ws

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

38. October 06, Security Focus — Security professionals warn of new Google Code Search.

Security professionals warned developers on Thursday, October 5, that they need to be aware that their open—source repositories can now be easily mined, allowing attackers to target programs that are likely to be flawed. While Google could previously be used to look for specific strings, now the search engine riffles through code that much better. "It is going deeper into places where code is publicly available, and it's clearly picking up stuff really well," said Chris Wysopal, chief technology officer of security startup Veracode. "This makes it easier and faster for attackers to find vulnerabilities — not for people that want to attack a (specific) Website, but for people that want to attack any Website." Google announced on Thursday that the tool is now available for public use. Google Code Search digs through open—source code repositories on the Internet, compiling the large amount of source code available on the Web into an easily searchable database. Google reiterated on Thursday that the tool is intended to help programmers to find coding examples and obscure function definitions, not parse for flaws.

Google Code Search Engine: http://www.google.com/codesearch Source: http://www.securityfocus.com/news/11417?ref=rss

39. October 06, Washington Post — Chinese Internet servers launch attack against U.S.

Commerce Department computer system. Hackers operating through Chinese Internet servers have launched a debilitating attack on the computer system of a sensitive Commerce Department bureau, forcing it to replace hundreds of workstations and block employees from regular use of the Internet for more than a month, Commerce officials said Thursday, October 5. The attack targeted the computers of the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), which is responsible for controlling U.S. exports of commodities, software and technology having both commercial and military uses. The bureau has stepped up its activity in regulating trade with China in recent years as the United States increased its exports of such dual—use items to the growing Chinese market. This marked the second time in recent months that U.S. officials confirmed that a major attack traced to China had succeeded in penetrating government computers. "Through established security procedures, BIS discovered a targeted effort to gain access to BIS user accounts," said Commerce Department spokesperson Richard Mills. "We have no evidence that BIS data has been lost or compromised."

 $Source: \underline{http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/10} \underline{/05/AR2006100501781.html}$

40. October 05, Reuters — **Hitachi to recall 16,000 Sony—made batteries.** Hitachi Ltd. said on Friday, October 6, it will recall 16,000 batteries made by Sony Corp. for laptop computers, joining a growing list of PC makers recalling Sony batteries. In the past two months, computer makers Dell Inc., Lenovo, IBM, Toshiba Corp. and Fujitsu Ltd. have recalled Sony batteries, which Sony has said can on rare occasions overheat and catch fire.

41. *October 05, Reuters* — China jamming test sparks U.S. satellite concerns. China has beamed a ground–based laser at U.S. spy satellites over its territory, a U.S. agency said, in an action that exposed the potential vulnerability of space systems that provide crucial data to American troops and consumers around the world. The Department of Defense remains

tight—lipped about details, including which satellite was involved or when it occurred. The Pentagon's National Reconnaissance Office Director Donald Kerr acknowledged the incident two weeks ago, first reported by Defense News, but said it did not materially damage the U.S. satellite's ability to collect information. The issue looms large, given that U.S. military operations have rapidly grown more reliant on satellite data for everything from targeting bombs to relaying communications to spying on enemy nations. Critical U.S. space assets include a constellation of 30 Global Positioning Satellites that help target bombs and find enemy locations. This system is also widely used in commercial applications, ranging from car navigation systems to automatic teller machines. The Pentagon also depends on communications satellites that relay sensitive messages to battlefield commanders, and satellites that track weather in critical areas so U.S. troops can plan their missions. Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=topNews&storyid=2006-10-05T164730Z 01 N02361333 RTRUKOC 0 US-ARMS-SP ACE.xml&src=rss&rpc=22

Internet Alert Dashboard

| Current Port Attacks | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Top 10 | 1026 (win-rpc), 139 (netbios-ssn), 80 (www), 113 (auth), 445 |
| Target | (microsoft–ds), 32806 (), 4662 (eDonkey2000), 25 (smtp), 4672 |
| Ports | (eMule), 135 (epmap) |
| | Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html; Internet Storm Center |

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/.

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

42. October 07, New York Times — Security barriers of New York are removed. They started appearing on Manhattan streets immediately after September 11: concrete and metal barriers in front of skyscrapers, offices and museums. Some were clunky planters; others were shaped artfully into globes. They were meant to be security barriers against possible car or truck bombers. But now, five years later, after evaluations by the New York Police Department, the city's Department of Transportation has demanded that many of the planters and concrete traffic medians be taken away. Officials found that the barriers obstructed pedestrian flow and, in the case of planters, often ended up being used as giant ashtrays. Counterterrorism experts also concluded that in terms of safety, some of the barriers, which building owners put in of their own accord, might do more harm than good. Across the nation, security barriers were hastily erected as a fast reaction to the terrorist attacks. Vehicle barriers were installed at the Library Tower in Los Angeles and the Sears Tower in Chicago. Capitol buildings from coast to coast were barricaded with fresh rows of concrete posts. In recent years, counterterrorism experts have concluded that a poorly anchored planter, struck hard enough by explosive force or a speeding vehicle could become "weaponized" and shatter into deadly shards or go flying. Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2006/10/07/nyregion/nyregionspecial3/07bollard.html

43. October 06, Associated Press — Fire destroys historic downtown Memphis church,

damages three nearby buildings. Fire swept through a historic downtown church early Friday, October 6, collapsing its steeple and flicking off embers that set fire to three other buildings, one of them 22 stories tall. No injuries were immediately reported. The cause of the church fire was under investigation. The First United Methodist Church, built in 1893, was largely destroyed by the flames, which were reported shortly before 3 a.m. CDT. Soon after the fire started at the church, three other nearby buildings began burning, including the Lincoln American Tower, once the tallest building in Memphis. The buildings were part of a \$45 million renovation into condominiums.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2006/10/06/ap/national/mainD8 KJ69B00.shtml

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at <u>nice@dhs.gov</u> or (202) 282–9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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